

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 and 6 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently Amended) A tripod constant velocity universal joint as set forth in Claim 7 4, wherein the contact ratio of said roller to said roller guide surface is so set that contact surface pressure produced on said roller during application of the predetermined torque is not more than contact surface pressure produced between said trunnion journal and said needle rollers.
3. (Currently Amended) A tripod constant velocity universal joint as set forth in Claim 7 4, wherein the contact ratio of said roller to said roller guide surface is 1.02 – 1.2.
4. (Currently Amended) A tripod constant velocity universal joint as set forth in Claim 7 4, wherein a ratio L_s/d_o of the width (L_s) to an outer diameter (d_o) of said roller is 0.32 or below.
5. (Original) A tripod constant velocity universal joint as set forth in Claim 4, wherein the ratio L_s/d_o of the width (L_s) to the outer diameter (d_o) of said roller is 0.24 – 0.27.
6. (Canceled).
7. (Currently Amended) A tripod constant velocity universal joint ~~as set forth in~~ in Claim 6 comprising:

an outer joint member having three axial track grooves in an inner periphery and
roller guide surfaces formed in opposing side walls of each track groove;

a tripod member having three radially projecting trunnion journals; and
rollers carried by respective trunnion journals and received in the track grooves
of said outer joint member, each roller being guided on a part-spherical outer peripheral
surface by said roller guide surfaces,

wherein contact between said roller and said roller guide surfaces is circular
contact having a contact ratio 1.01 or above,

wherein a width dimension of said roller is reduced to an extent that a contact
ellipse produced by said roller during application of a predetermined torque does not
deviate from an end surface of said roller,

wherein said contact ratio is defined by a ratio of a radius of curvature of said
roller guide surface relative to a radius of curvature of said outer peripheral surface,
wherein a portion of said roller guide surface corresponding to the end of said
roller is formed with a relief portion, and

wherein said relief portion is an arc smoothly connected to ends of said roller
guide surface .

8-23. (Cancelled by Paper No. 18)

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